

United Croquet Club

Newsletter – UCC newsletter -March 2021

Coming events

Happy hour

There will be a happy hour at the club this Saturday 20 March starting at 3:30pm. It looks like good weather for croquet.

Club closing day

Our club closing day is on Saturday 10 April. This marks the end of the normal summer season. The lawns remain open, except for some seasonal maintenance, but some events such as afternoon teas may stop during the winter season.

We will have a shared lunch at noon followed by play. Please put your name on the sheet on the notice board indicating if you will bring a salad or desert.

CCA closing day

The CCA closing day will be Sunday 18 April at Fendalton Park Croquet Club. Details are still to be announced. This will include the CCA prize giving.

Club AGM

The date for the club AGM will be decided at the next committee meeting in April. It will be in May or June.

CCA AGM

The CCA AGM will be Saturday 26 June at Fendalton Park Croquet Club at 10am.

GC rule books

We now have a small supply of GC Rules books. Some members have ordered one, but we do have extras if you did not put in an order. Collect them from John Yarrall. Cost is \$7.50.

CCA Silver badge

The Silver Badge competitions are played among representatives of Canterbury clubs. It is level play in grades.

The GC Silver Badge was played on 14 March.

United representatives were:

Duncan Dixon	Premier (-6 to 5)
Galina Worley	Senior (3 to 5)
Louis Inglewood	Intermediate (6 to 8)
Carol Pilbrough	Primary (9 to 16)

Congratulations to Duncan who won his grade and to Louis who was runner up in his grade.

Results were published on the CCA blog. To receive an email for each post, go to the CCA website and register your email. Details are below under *Staying informed*.

The AC Silver Badge will be played on 28 March.

United representatives are:

Duncan Dixon	-3 to -0.5
John Yarrall	0 to 3.5
Steve Costigan	4 to 9

There are none for 10 to 16 and 18 to 24.

Security

Security is an ongoing issue at the club. Many tools were stolen in the break-ins while we were at level 4 lockdown. The locks on the equipment shed have been changed so it is harder to break in.

Unfortunately, since we are back playing, we are still losing small items. These include screwdrivers, spanners, hoop clamps and many other items. It is possible that some items were borrowed and not returned. If so, can any borrowed items be returned.

In the past, members have lost items left in the club house. Some loss is from opportunistic entry when doors are left unlocked when people are out playing.

Unless someone is in the kitchen, the kitchen door should be kept locked. Consider always keeping it locked so you will not forget to lock it when going out to play.

The sliding door can be left unlocked (but closed) as it is visible from the lawns.

Rosters

We rely on members contributing to rosters to keep our costs down. We have rosters for club-house cleaning, gardens, lawn mowing, lawn care, mowing surrounds.

We recently added members to lawn mowing and they have been trained on using the mower. Even with the extra numbers, each person is rostered to mow monthly. This can increase to fortnightly when we mow twice a week during peak growing season. A few more members on the mowing roster would spread the load.

Lawn care involves spraying (star weed is coming back), weeding, spot watering of lawn under repair and supporting new lawn. Currently this is left to a very small group which can be very onerous on individuals. Additional members to take some of the load is needed. This work is not continuous but comes and goes as we have work to do. More volunteers for lawn care are needed.

Staying informed

There are lots of ways to keep informed at United.

These newsletters as well as emails from the club captains and secretary are regularly sent to members. Other sources of information are:

United Club website unitedcroquet.com

This includes an on-line calendar with the next four events listed in the right-hand column of every page. Add your email under the heading "Follow Blog via Email" to receive an email of every blog posted on the site.

Canterbury Croquet Association website croquetcanterbury.com

Add your email under the heading "Follow Blog via Email" at the bottom of each page. You will then receive an email of every blog posted on the site. This will include reports of association competitions and other association events.